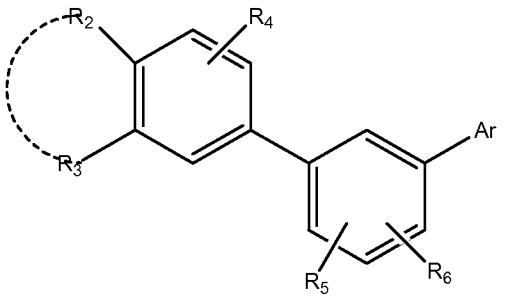
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

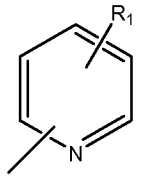
1. (Previously Presented) A biphenyl compound substituted with an aromatic or heteroaromatic radical, characterized in that they correspond to the general formula (I) below:

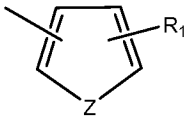


(I)

in which:

Ar represents an aromatic or heteroaromatic radical chosen from:

(b) 

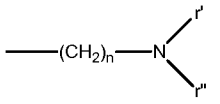
and (c) 

Z being O or S,

R_1 represents $-COR_9$,

R_2 and R_3, taken together, form a 5- or 6- membered ring, optionally substituted with at least one methyl,

R_4 represents H, a halogen atom, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl, -OR_{10}, -$OCOR_{11}$ or a polyether radical,

R_5 represents H, a halogen atom, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl, -$OCOR_{11}$, -OR_{12}, mono- or polyhydroxyalkyl, -NO_2,  , -$(CH_2)_n$-$NHCOCH_3$, -CH=CH-COR_{13}, -$(CH_2)_n COR_{13}$, n being 0 to 6, -O-$(CH_2)_m COR_{13}$, -O-$(CH_2)_m OH$, m being 1 to 12, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aralkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, a polyether radical or a -CH_2- polyether radical,

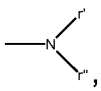
R_6 represents H, lower alkyl or -OR_{10},

R_9 represents -OR_{14}, H or lower alkyl,

R_{10} represents H or lower alkyl,

R_{11} represents lower alkyl,

R_{12} represents H, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl, mono- or polyhydroxyalkyl, or optionally substituted aryl or aralkyl,

R_{13} represents H, lower alkyl, -OR_{10}, aryl or  ,

R_{14} represents H,

r' and r", which may be identical or different, represent H, OH, lower alkyl, mono- or polyhydroxyalkyl, optionally substituted aryl, an amino acid residue or a peptide residue, or r' and r", taken together, form a heterocycle,

or a salt of the compound of formula (I), or an optical or geometrical isomer of the compound of formula (I).

2. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that they are in the form of a salt of an alkali metal or alkaline-earth metal, or alternatively of zinc or of an organic amine.

3. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the lower alkyl radical is chosen from the group consisting of the methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, butyl, tert-butyl and hexyl radicals.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl is chosen from the group consisting of the methyl, ethyl, propyl, 2-ethylhexyl, octyl, dodecyl hexadecyl and octadecyl radicals.

5. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the monohydroxyalkyl radical is chosen from the group consisting of the hydroxymethyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, 2-hydroxypropyl and 3-hydroxypropyl radicals.

6. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the polyhydroxyalkyl radical is chosen from the group consisting of the 2,3-

dihydroxypropyl, 2,3, 4-trihydroxybutyl and 2,3,4,5-tetrahydroxypentyl radicals and the pentaerythritol residue.

7. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the polyether radical is chosen from the group consisting of the methoxymethoxy, methoxyethoxy and methoxyethoxymethoxy radicals.

8. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the -CH_2-polyether radical is chosen from the group consisting of the methoxymethoxymethyl, ethoxymethoxymethyl and methoxyethoxymethoxymethyl radicals.

9. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the aryl radical is a phenyl radical optionally substituted with at least one halogen, a hydroxyl, a nitro function, a polyether radical or an amino function optionally protected with an acetyl group or optionally substituted with at least one C_1-C_6 lower alkyl or alkoxy.

10. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the aralkyl radical is chosen from the group consisting of benzyl and phenethyl radicals optionally substituted with at least one halogen atom, a hydroxyl, a nitro function, a polyether radical or an amino function optionally protected with an acetyl group or optionally substituted with at least one C_1-C_6 lower alkyl or alkoxy.

11. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the heteroaryl radical is chosen from the group consisting of pyridyl, furyl and

thienyl radicals, optionally substituted with at least one halogen, a lower alkyl, a hydroxyl, a C_1-C_3 alkoxy, a nitro function, a polyether radical or an amino function optionally protected with an acetyl group or optionally substituted with at least one C_1-C_6 lower alkyl or alkoxy.

Claims 12-13. (Canceled)

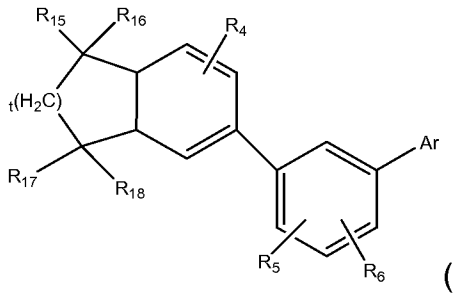
14. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the amino acid residue is chosen from the group consisting of residues derived from lysine, from glycine and from aspartic acid.

15. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the peptide residue is chosen from the group consisting of dipeptide and tripeptide residues.

16. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that when r' and r" form a heterocycle, this is chosen from the group consisting of piperidino, morpholino, pyrrolidino and piperazino radicals, optionally substituted in position 4 with a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a mono- or polyhydroxyalkyl.

17. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the halogen atom is chosen from the group consisting of fluorine, chlorine and bromine.

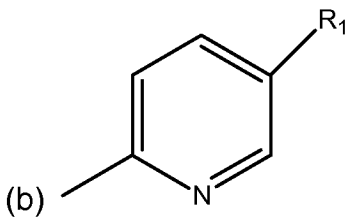
18. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that they correspond to the general formulae (II) below:



(II)

in which:

Ar represents a radical of formula (b) below:



(b)

R_1, R_4, R_5, R_6, and R_7 having the same meanings as those given in Claim 1,

R_{15}, R_{16}, R_{17} and R_{18}, which may be identical or different, represent H or $-CH_3$, and

t is 1 or 2.

19. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that they are taken from the group consisting of:

- 6-[2-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthyl)biphenyl-4-yl]nicotinic acid, [[and]]

- 5-[2-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthyl)biphenyl-4-yl]2-pyridinecarboxylic acid, and

- 2-[2-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthyl)biphenyl-4-yl]-4-thiophenecarboxylic acid.

20. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, for use as a medicinal product.

Claims 21-22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, characterized in that it comprises, in a pharmaceutically acceptable support, at least one compound as defined according to Claim 1.

24. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 23, characterized in that the concentration of said at least one compound is between 0.001% and 5% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

25. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic composition, characterized in that it contains, in a cosmetically acceptable support, at least one compound as defined according to Claim 1.

26. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic composition according to Claim 25, characterized in that the concentration of said at least one compound is between 0.001 and 3% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) A dermatological, immunoallergic, cardiovascular and/or opthalmological treatment method comprising administering a composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 to a person in need of said treatment.

29. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic treatment method for repairing or combating aging of the skin comprising applying to the part of the skin to be treated a composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 to a person in need of said cosmetic treatment.

30. (Previously Presented) A dermatological, immunoallergic, cardiovascular or ophthalmological treatment method comprising administering a composition comprising a compound according to claim 1, to a person in need of said treatment.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for treating dermatological complaints associated with keratinization disorders.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for treating acne.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for treating ichthyosis, Darier's diseases, palmoplantar keratoderma, leucophasia and cutaneous or mucous lichen.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for treating psoriasis, cutaneous atopy, respiratory atopy or gingival hypertrophy.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, for treating eczema.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for treating dermal or epiderman proliferations.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, for treating warts, papillomatoses and uv-induced proliferations.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for treating bullosis or collagen diseases.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for treating corneopathies.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for treating cutaneous atrophy.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for combating cicatrization disorders or stretch marks.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for combating seborrhoea.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for combating arthritis.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for combating alopecia.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, for combating arteriosclerosis.